(b) the details of major passenger amenities provided by Railways to the passengers during last three years; and

(c) what are the programmes proposed to be taken up to provide more amenities to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Percentage of expenditure incurred on Passenger Amenities to total outlay during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Percentage
1989-90	0.68
1990-91	0.58
1991-92	0.63

(b) Amenities are provided at stations in accordance with prescribed norms based on the volume of passenger traffic handled. Periodical surveys are conducted by Railways to ascertain deficiencies in basic amenities at stations and action is taken to eliminate them. During the last three years, not only basic amenities such as waiting halls, benches/seats, lighting, platform with well maintained surface, proper booking arrangements and shady trees were provided as per yardsticks at various stations, but additional amenities like provision of water coolers, waiting rooms, retiring rooms, book stalls, refreshment rooms, bathrooms, urinals, fans, CCTVs, public address system, enquiry/information office, train indicator boards, additional platforms and platform shelters, washable aprons on platform lines, foot over bridges, circulating area etc., were also provided at various stations depending on the traffic requirement.

(c) Railways are making all out efforts to provide maximum comfort to the rail users. With this in view, progressively increasing allocations are made every year for undertaking passenger amenity works. Presently, an action plan to eliminate the deficiencies in respect of basic passenger amenities as existing on 1-4-1991, has been taken up. Besides, other passenger amenities if justified, based on volume of passenger traffic, will also be provided, subject to availability of funds.

ABB Locomotive Deal

3000. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently cleared Asean Brown Boveri locomotives deal;

(b) if so, the total number of electric locomotives of 6000 HP which the Railways expect to purchase from ABB;

(c) the loan assistance proposed to be given to the Indian Railways by the ABB for the purchase of these locomotive;

(d) whether the decision to go ahead with the locomotives deal had been taken after taking into account of the recommendations of the R.C.C.;

(e) if so, the main recommendations of RCC accepted by the Railways; and

(f) whether the above decision was taken after taking into account the recommendations of the Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission, if so, what were the main recommendations to the Experts Group set up by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Contract for supply of 30 Nos. of 6000 HP 25 KV AC 3 phase electric locomotives alongwith associated spares in the form of 3 loco sets has been awarded to ABB/ Switzerland.

(c) ABB has not proposed to give any loan assistance for the purchase of these locomotives.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The recommendations of the RCC was that the Government may give serious consideration to the views expressed by the Committee before taking a final decision. After considering the views expressed by RCC, the Government decided to go ahead with the awarding of the contract.

(f) Yes, Sir. The main recommendation of the Expert Group was that the need for introducing the high horse power locomotives incorporating state-of-the art technologies is established beyond doubt on technological, operational and economic considerations.

रेलवे स्टेशनों पर वैन्डर या दुकान के आबंटन में अधिकारियों द्वारा रिश्वत लिया जाना

3001. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस मामले की जानकारी है कि किसी अधिकारी ने रेलवे स्टेशनों पर वैन्डर या दुकान आबंटित किये जाने हेतु रिश्वत ली है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो विगत दो वर्षों का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) सरकार ने दोषी व्यक्तियों के विरूद्ध क्या कार्यवाई की है ; और

(घ) इनमें से कितने लोगों को निलंबित किया गया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : (क) बुकिंग ठेके आवंटित करने में बरती गई अनियमितताओं के संबंध में कुछ शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई है ।

(ख) पिछले दो वर्षों में दो शिकायतें दक्षिण मध्य रेलवे पर और एक शिकायत पश्चिम रेलवे पर प्राप्त हुई थी ।

(ग) दक्षिण मध्य रेलवे के दो मामलों में 5 अधिकारियों के विरूद्ध अनुशासन एवं अपील नियमों के अंतर्गत अनुशासनिक कार्यवाई की गई थी । पश्चिम रेलवे पर प्राप्त हुई शिकायत के संबंध में आरोप सिद्ध नहीं हो सके थे ।

(घ) किसी भी व्यक्ति को निलम्बित नहीं किया गया था ।

Memorandum from the Nanded Zilla Parishad

3002. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Nanded Zilla Railway Parishad;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government on the demands enunciated in the memorandum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The Memorandum contained the following demands :

1. *Gauge conversion work between Purna-Nanded-Mudkhed and laying of parallel BG line between Mudkhed and Purna :*

Work of conversion on Parbhani-Purna (28 kms.) section has been taken up. With the inclusion of Akola-Purna-Mudkhed and Bolarum-Mudkhed in the Action Plan under Project Unigauge, parallel BG line between Purna and Mudkhed is not required.

2. *To introduce Nanded-Khandwa "SACHKHAND" Express train :*

At present, two pairs of trains viz. 7569/7570 Secunderabad-Jaipur Express and 581/582 Secunderabad-Ajmer Fast Passenger connect Nanded with Khandwa. Besides, 577 Adilabad-Jalna Passenger and 7569 Ellora Express provides convenient connection at Purna to 583/584 Purna-Khandwa Passenger for travelling towards Khandwa and vice versa. These services are considered adequate for the present level of traffic offering between these two places. Introduction of an additional service between Nanded and Khandwa is presently not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

3. *Naming the train Bombay-Aurangabad-Jalna Express as Marathwada Express :*

7593/7594 Nanded-Jalna Express has already been named as Marathwada Express. Therefore, naming of Bombay VT-Aurangabd-Jalna Express as Marathwada Express will create confusion among the people of the region, hence not considered desirable.

4. *Passenger traffic on the line Adilabad-Majari section :*

Passenger traffic is already running on Majari-Wani section of Adilabad-Majari section. Wani-Pimpalkutti Adilabad BG section has been opened to goods traffic at present. Openning of this section to passenger traffic will be considered after conversion of Adilabad-Mudkhed-Parbhani MG section is completed.

Resignation of Members of the DRUCC of Central Railway, Nagpur

3003. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that twelve members of the DRUCC of Central Railway, Nagpur have resigned in the month of May-June, 1993;

(b) what are the reasons for their resignations;

(c) whether the vacancies created would be filled early; and

(d) whether precautions are proposed to be taken this time to see that ticket touts and criminals are not nominated on the DRUCC as was done earlier ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) As a protest against running the new trains namely, 2407/2408 Nagpur-Nizamuddin Express only 4 days in a week instead of their demands for running it daily, 11 members of the DRUCC/Nagpur Division of Central Railway had tendered their resignations in June, 1993.